



From left to right—David Maunaloa, Henry K. Smith, John A. C. Peterson (director), Harry K. Clark, James Crowell.  
HAWAIIAN QUINTET, WHICH WILL BE AN ATTRACTION AT THE HAWAII PROMOTION COMMITTEE BOOTH ON THE FAMOUS ATLANTIC CITY BOARD WALK.

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### HAWAIIAN QUINTET GOING TO THE ATLANTIC CITY EXPOSITION

On Tuesday evening the members of the Hawaiian quintet club of musicians, which is to be one of the chief attractions of the Hawaii Promotion Committee's booth on the Atlantic City board walk this summer, will leave for the coast on the Matson steamship Lurline. The party will proceed to Atlantic City by way of San Francisco, Chicago, Washington and Baltimore. Their presence on the Lurline will be a treat for the passengers, as they will practice constantly on the voyage. They are to sing only Hawaiian songs, this being one of the conditions under which Hawaiian musicians are engaged for the summer season.

The quintet club is under the personal direction of John A. C. Peterson, one of the best known musicians locally,

who has played in many cities on the mainland. The members of the club are among the most popular singing boys in Honolulu, and all possess pleasing voices.

P. J. Vierra, who has been the leader of the Honolulu Concert orchestra, also goes to Atlantic City. He is to have charge of the music, sheet music, cello, etc., in the booth. Mr. Vierra is a leader of ability, demonstrating his aptitude with the baton as leader for the Honolulu Symphony Orchestra particularly at Ed's memorial services. In his absence Karl Vincent, a new arrival, will direct the orchestra.

Secretary Wood of the promotion committee has arranged for the club to give a concert at two of the St. Francis Hotel, and another at one of the principal hotels of Chicago, and in Washington the boys purpose serenading Prince Kihiko, delegate to congress.

### The Sponge Industry

When daily using the sponge, how many people are there who are aware of the fact that possibly the price of that sponge is a man's life? One of the most dangerous of occupations is that followed by the men who gather sponges.

The best kind of sponges are those coming from the Levant, where some 5000 men are kept busily at work. It is in the early part of the spring that a tremendous amount of activity is apparent among three or four of the chief islands of the Aegean, as it is then the sponge fleet start for the yearly cruise.

The sponges, of course, grow on rocks under the water, the best of all being obtained at the detached heads of rock in at least eight or ten fathoms of water. It is the object of the men to obtain these sponges without tearing them.

There are three ways of fishing for sponges adopted in the Levant. One is simply by tearing off the sponge with a sort of grapple, though this is only used in the case of inferior sponges.

Another way is by means of what is called the "gangara," which is little else than an adaptation of the British diving trawl. The trawl is triangular-shaped, the bottom bar being sharpened so as to detach the sponges from the ground, while the movement of the boat naturally sends them into the bag slung behind.

The third and most popular method is that of diving. The diver carries a heavy stone on his back. He dives down, the weight of the stone helping him to his depth; having found a good sponge he tears it off, and then releases the weight. The lightness of his body enables him to rise to the surface, leaving the weight at the bottom.

Many curious stories are related by the sponge fishers in connection with this diving. For instance, on one occasion a young diver found himself descending to the jaws of a shark. With a gasp he perceived that he had allowed the stone to fall into the shark's mouth, while he himself had escaped unscathed and ascended to the surface.

Today, however, the old order of things has passed away, as the advent of the diving dress has altered everything. Huge expeditions are now operating in the Aegean, and an extraordinary state of affairs exists throughout the industry. There is a state of catnip on a comparison with the sponge industry which is not realized in this country and which is a disgrace to civilization.

It is well known that a diver at great depths the descent must be gradual in order to allow the body to become accustomed to the pressure of the water. When the diving dress was introduced, the Greeks found that whereas a man previously could only stay in the water for a minute or a minute and a half, he could now remain for half an hour.

The owners were unwilling to waste the time which should be allowed for the descent when diving is carried on under proper conditions. Instead, therefore, of lowering a man a foot at a minute they decided to throw him overboard, allowing him to sink like a log. So general is this disgraceful state of affairs that about 80 per cent

of the sponge divers suffer from paralysis, eventually total paralysis being their fate. One would imagine that in a civilized country, either the government would have adopted measures to prevent this, or that the divers themselves would have shown themselves reluctant to undertake such a hazardous profession. Such, however, is not the case. It should be mentioned to the credit of the "infidel" Turks that Turkey has forbidden the use of the diving dress for sponge fishing.

A few days preceding the departure of the sponge fleet a lamentable spectacle is provided. The divers, like the gladiators of old, are aware that they may never see their native shores again, so they go in for a course of unrestrained debauchery in which they are encouraged by the huge payments which are given them as bribes for their services.

It is commonly understood that a diver will receive 2000 drachmas (about £100) for the summer fishing, 1500 of which will be paid him before he sails. He gathers into him his boon companions, and after three or four nights of drunkenness wakes up with a splitting headache to find that he is already far out at sea with the prospect of serving under a ruthless master and never getting the remainder of his pay.

To do the captain's justice, if they can be said to deserve such, I must admit that they themselves are oppressed by the scoundrels, who let out the diving suits with provisions and nets at an exorbitant rate of interest, so that it is practically impossible for the man to secure anything but the smallest profit. If they paid their men full wages they would speedily be ruined.

One may wonder that the men do not mutiny against all treatment. But it may be remembered that the skipper, as mentioned, as they sail him, is always accompanied on board by a number of the scoundrels or near relatives, who are always well armed, and so have the whip hand.—Pearson's Weekly.

### OAHU COLLEGE NOTICE

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